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***NEW TERM BRINGS CHANGES TO NAPOLITANO ADMINISTRATION***  
***Administration Welcomes New, Relocated Cabinet Members***

PHOENIX – Governor Napolitano has accepted the resignation of Arizona Department of Real Estate Commissioner Elaine Richardson. Richardson, who plans to retire to Tucson to pursue personal goals, has served as Commissioner for the duration of Governor Napolitano’s first term. Prior to her appointment, she was a member of the Arizona State Legislature for ten years.

“Commissioner Richardson has been the head of the Department of Real Estate during its busiest time in Arizona history,” Governor Napolitano said. “Throughout the past four years she led the state through an incredible boom and did so with excellence and efficiency. She will be missed, and I wish her continued success.”

The Governor has not yet named a replacement for Richardson. Richard C. Simmonds, who has served the Commission for more than a decade, will act as Interim Commissioner.

Governor Napolitano has appointed Jerry Oliver, Sr. to be the new Director of the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control. Oliver replaces Leesa Berens Morrison, who was named Director of the Arizona Department of Homeland Security last week.

Oliver, a Vietnam veteran, is currently the Deputy Director of the Arizona Department of Administration. Oliver was appointed to this position in May of 2005 and has been an asset to the department for the past 18 months. Prior to working in the Napolitano administration, Oliver spent more than a decade serving as Chief of Police for the communities of Pasadena, California; Richmond, Virginia; and Detroit, Michigan. Oliver is currently involved in several community organizations, including the Phoenix Metropolitan YMCA Board of Directors and the Phoenix 100 Rotary Club.

The Governor has also named Kristin Almquist to head the Governor’s Southern Arizona Office, replacing Jan Leshar, who now heads the Arizona Department of Commerce. Almquist currently serves as the Director of Community Development for Habitat for Humanity in Tucson. “Kristin’s extensive experience with community and business development, in combination with her knowledge of Arizona and its history, make her an excellent choice for the job,” Governor Napolitano said. “I know this will be an easy transition.”

Arizona Congressman Raúl Grijalva added, "Kristin is a wonderful addition to the Governor's Office. She has a great connection to the community, has a special care for our constituents, and brings passion and energy to the position. I look forward to working with her in this capacity and expect great things under her leadership."

Prior to her work with Habitat, Almquist served as Director of Development/Start-up Coordinator for the Council on Aging Foundation/Pima Council on Aging. Almquist is a member of the Project for Arizona's Future and Arizona List, among other organizations.